



Momentum Dance Arts Competitive Company Information Packet

Competition requires a greater level of commitment to dancing.

Dancers, as part of Momentum Dance Arts Competitive Company you are expected to be committed to your classes, dancing full out and working hard for your teachers and choreographers. Those who listen to every correction and apply themselves in every class and rehearsals will have the most success. Remember to show respect to all teachers and staff, your parents, and all students at the studio. We are all in this together and want to create a successful team!

Parents, Our competitive program requires a positive atmosphere from all involved. Cooperation between all parents is expected at all times. Please show respect for staff members, other parents, and all dancers. A positive and enthusiastic outlook on this program extends to your child. Negative comments and feedback can be harmful to your child's progress and education. We expect all parents to maintain an open line of communication so that we may work together to meet the goals of each dancer.

Auditions: Both new and returning members will have to audition in order to be considered for the 2024-2025 MDA Competitive Company. You must be present at both the choreography session and the Company audition to be considered. If you are unable to attend our live audition, you may be approved for a video submission. Deadlines and restrictions will apply for video submissions. The non-refundable audition fee is \$40 (CASH OR CHECK ONLY) and will help compensate our choreographers and judges for their time. Momentum Minis non-refundable audition fee is \$30 (CASH OR CHECK ONLY). This will be a closed audition. There will be no observers allowed in the dance room. If you are late, you will not be allowed to audition. We suggest arriving at least 15 minutes early. The audition for ages 9+ will consist of a Ballet Barre, Jazz, Contemporary, a Specialty routine (Hip Hop or Musical Theater), and Improvisation. Your dancer will also be brought in to answer a few questions from our judges. The audition for ages 5-8 will consist of a Jazz routine, Acro skills display and improvisation.

June 1st

Choreography Session (Upper Studio)

9-10a	Ages 5-8
10:30-12:30p	Ages 9-11
1-3p	Ages 12+

June 2nd (Closed to Observers)

Team Auditions (Upper Studio)

9-10a	Ages 5-8 (Momentum Minis)
10:30-12:30p	Ages 9-11
1-3p	Ages 12+

* Routine videos will be uploaded to our website at the end of day one.

There is a \$40 Audition Fee due at time of application, Due May 24th.

There is a \$30 Audition Fee at time of application for Momentum Minis, Due May 24th.

What to Wear and other Audition Details: Dancers 9+ must wear solid black dance attire for the Jazz and Contemporary portion of the audition but may wear an outfit of choice if Hip Hop is the specialty piece. Tights are not required. Hair must be secured in a pony tail or bun for all styles. Dancers should bring all dance shoes. Momentum Minis (Ages 5-8) should wear any color leotard, leggings, or dance shorts, Jazz Shoes, or Barre Foot.

Dancers will be adjudicated on their flexibility, technique, performance quality, and their ability to pick up on choreography quickly (memory). Dancers must obtain a specific score in order to be accepted onto the team.

Dancers must be recommended by the majority of the judges for a solo in order to be invited to compete a solo. No solo recommendations will be given for novice/intermediate level ages 10 and up.

Routine requests will be submitted with your audition application. This will give you an opportunity to select the number of routines you are financially able to commit to should your dancer be selected for the Competitive Co. PLEASE REMEMBER, it is not appropriate to ask for your dancer to be in more routines or question placement. All decisions made are in the best interest of the dancers and the team as a whole. In an effort to reduce rehearsal scheduling conflicts, we will select dancers for groups based on the age levels we will compete in.

What Happens after the Audition: Dancers will receive an email announcing if they have been accepted onto the MDA Competitive Company by Monday, June 3rd. Your completed contract will be due July 1st to accept your spot on the Company. A meeting can be scheduled with your family to go over routine selections and expectations if requested. Your dancer's signed contract can be emailed to Momentumdancearts@gmail.com or brought into our office. If you are not a current MDA dancer, and are selected for the team, you will be placed on probation until the end of our choreography bootcamp week in August.

Your Time and Responsibilities

Ages 5-8: Will rehearse 1.5 hours a week (Usually Wednesdays or Fridays) and will participate in Company Classes and Technique classes.

Required: 2 Competitions, 1 Convention. Will have (1) mandatory routine.

Ages 9-11: Will rehearse 1-2 hours a week (usually Wednesdays/Fridays/Saturdays) and will participate in Company Classes and Technique classes.

Required: 4 Competitions, 1 Convention. Will have (2) mandatory routine.

Ages 12 and up: Will rehearse 3-4 hours a week (usually Wednesdays/Fridays/Saturdays) and will participate in Company Classes and Technique classes.

Required: 4 Competitions, 2 Conventions. Will have (2) mandatory routines.

Most events will take place in Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, or surrounding areas. Company members will also be required to attend all community events/performances (Approx. 2-3).

The Competitive Company season commitment will be August-May. Momentum Minis season commitment is August-March.

ALL COMPANY MEMBERS,

- Mandatory Choreography Boot Camp is Scheduled for August 4th-10th. Please keep the entire week open 8am-8pm. Company Boot Camp schedules TBD (Times Depend on your Routine Selection). Momentum Minis will have limited rehearsal during this week (Approx 4 Hours).
- Your studio time will be increased. We will do our best to group classes together to minimize week days at the studio.
- Dancer will give all teachers respect during class, by not talking back, coming prepared, having hair their secured away from their face and in the proper dance clothes.
- All dancers will follow Company dress code and will have their hair up and secure, wearing only black dance attire for Company rehearsals and Company classes.

- Dancers will respect their teammates by not talking and/or gossiping about each other. This will not be tolerated. We are a team. Any violations to the contract will be noted and after the third occurrence, your dancer will be placed on probation and may lose their spot on the team.
- Specific dances will be by invite only and at the discretion of the choreographer depending on age, level, ability, or a certain look they may need to fulfill a part in their routine. It is not appropriate to ask to be included in extra dances.
- Last minute withdrawals from any competition will not be tolerated. Serious injuries or family tragedies are the only exceptions. All entry fees are non-refundable due to each competition's policies.
- All competition scheduling is set by the competition itself; not our studio. Any requests to alter specific days and times of performances cannot be accommodated and will not be accepted.
- During the competition season, dancers are prohibited from altering their hair color involving any color that is not natural such as bold streaks, blue, red, green etc., permanent hair accessories such as feathers, colored extensions etc. are not allowed. No body piercings or tattoos are allowed while competing. Absolutely no nail polish allowed while competing. No jewelry allowed unless otherwise specified.
- Level placement, music selection, choreography, costuming and spacing of all group routines are at the choreographer's discretion and are not up for discussion. These decisions are made from many years of teaching experience. All staff members are passionate about our competition team. We take pride in every student and every dance routine. All decisions are made in the best interests of the dancers. Inappropriate and demeaning parent and/or student comments will not be tolerated.
- All dancers are required to attend their group photo sessions.
- All dancers are required to enroll in certain technique classes throughout the dance season. Additional technique classes may be required for your dancer depending on routine selection.
- Dancers must train exclusively at Momentum Dance Arts while under contract. All outside, supplemental training should be presented in writing to the Company Director, approved, and will be added to the team calendar to ensure there are no Company conflicts.
- All dancers are required to attend their Saturday Company rehearsals. If a dancer is not able to attend they will be required to have a private lesson with one of our Company instructors.
- Any dancer who drops out of their routine after bootcamp will be assessed a "drop-out fee" of \$150 to pay for the added rehearsals that would be required to restage the dance.
- New this Season ** We will only compete groups at our first ALL Team Competition. There will be opportunities to compete solos/duets/trios at additional optional competitions if desired.
- New this Season**All dancers must dance full out with no injuries the week prior to competition. Should a dancer be unable to perform a week prior to competition, that dancer will be replaced with an understudy.

Mandatory Summer Classes: In an effort to maintain the dancer's technique, they must train during the summer. If your dancer is training outside of the studio, please let us know ASAP so we can log their hours. We would like all dancers to participate in at least 25 hours of training this summer.

Our summer classes will consist of Company classes specifically designed to work on technique and goals for our upcoming season and our routines. Our Momentum Minis will be given class recommendations for the summer.

If available, we ask that everyone ages 8+ participate in our Ballet Intensive July 29-31st.

Fall Class Requirements:

We have two tracks for our Competitive Dancers. A recommendation for which track your dancer should take will be made after contract has been received. Or ***Performance Plus Artist Track*** is 7-9 Hours of training and our ***Elite Artist Track*** is 10-15 Hours of training. You will be given a track recommendation, but ultimately it is up to you to determine how much training you would like your dancer to have. You may be required to take classes or specific styles based on your routine selection.

Ages 12 and Up-

Technique Classes per Week (charged at tuition rate):

- One (Aprox. 1.5 hour) Ballet Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Jazz Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Contemporary Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Tap Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Pointe Class – by teacher recommendation
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Acro Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Strength/Flexibility Class

Company ONLY Classes (company fee):

- One (Aprox. 45 Minutes) Strength and Conditioning
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Technique Class (Turns/Leaps)

**** Bonus Classes**** Hip Hop, Musical Theater

If selected for a routine in a bonus style, you will have to take that bonus class.

- Minimum of 3-4 hours of weekly rehearsals
- Total Required Classes (Approximately) = 9.5 Hours per Week (Approximately 4-5 days per week)

Ages 9 to 11-

Technique Classes per Week (charged tuition rate):

- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Ballet Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Jazz Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Contemporary Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Tap Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Acro Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Strength/Flexibility Class

Company ONLY Classes (company fee added-these are no recital classes strictly for dancer development):

- One (Aprox. 45 Minutes) Strength and Conditioning
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Technique Class (Turns/Leaps)

**** Bonus Classes**** Hip Hop and Musical Theater

If selected for a routine in a bonus style, you will have to take that bonus class.

- Minimum of 1-2 hours of weekly rehearsals
- Total Required Classes Approximately = 8 Hours per Week (Approximately 3-4 days a week)

Momentum Mini's Ages 5 to 8

Calling all tiny dancers! The Momentum Mini's is made up of our 5-8 year-old dancers who love to dance and perform. This program combines discipline and fun together to give each dancer the foundation to take their dancing to new heights. This is the building blocks for a strong foundation in dance. Dancers train 4.5 hours a week and attend two competitions and one convention. There will be an opportunity for all Mini's to compete at all 4 competitions and to be considered for an additional small group routine.

Technique Classes per Week (charged tuition rate):

- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Ballet Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Tap/Jazz Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Acro Class
- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Contemporary Class (Ages 7+)

Momentum Minis ONLY Classes (company fee added-these are no recital classes strictly for dancer development):

- One (Aprox. 1 hour) Technique/Rehearsal Class

***All Competitive Company members ages 11 + will be required to assist at least (1) hour per week.** This is an integral part of being a Company member. These leadership roles allow our older Company members the opportunity to gain teaching experience and help to instill qualities that will help nurture their relationships with the younger members of our Company.

Attendance Policy: Proper attendance is an essential component of the dancer's education and progress. All classes are dedicated to technique and/or choreography. A dancer who misses class and/or rehearsal may hold back the progress of the entire team. When a dancer is absent from a choreography class, they are expected to learn the choreography prior to returning to the next class and may be required to take a private lesson. All dancers are allowed no more than 3 absences from rehearsal or Company class. Although dancers are allowed 3 absences, we encourage perfect attendance. Dancers should only be absent if it is absolutely necessary. Attendance will be monitored closely in all classes. There are no "make up" classes for any missed rehearsal or Company classes. Private lessons will be mandatory to make up for any missed rehearsals (especially Saturday All Team Rehearsals) at the expense of the dancer if requested by the director/choreographer/or rehearsal director. Dancers must be in attendance the week before a Company Event.

Financial Obligations

All team members will have a separate competition account that will keep track of all competition expenses and credits. All competition entry fees, team attire, and costumes will be billed as an installment payable September-April. All accounts must be paid in full by May 15th. Any funds left over by April will be credited to your dance class tuition account; any balance will be collected at this time.

Monthly Competitive Company Fees: \$120/Mth Company, \$50/Mth Minis

Company members will be provided with additional Dance Conditioning and Technique classes. This fee will go towards these extra technique classes and group routine rehearsal/cleaning hours.

Choreography Fees: Your choreography cost will depend on the number of routines your dancer is selected for and is due by August 1st. If you are selected for a solo and you will schedule your rehearsal with the choreographer prior to our Boot Camp week, your solo fee will be due at the first choreography session.

Groups:

10 Plus Dancers: \$70/Dancer

4-9 Dancers: \$90/Dancer

Duo/Trios: \$400 Split Equally

Solos: \$380 (5 total Scheduled Rehearsals, 3 to learn and 2 to clean)

Admin/Staff Travel/Transport Fee: \$65/Dancer/Competition-Convention

As part of the Company, you will be required to pay this fee for each Convention/Competition you are participating in. This fee pays for instructor/choreographer's travel expenses, administrative time coordinating events, and any prop transport costs.

Competition Entry Fees:

Solos: \$170

Duet/Trios: \$100/Per Dancer

Groups: \$75/Per Dancer

Convention Fees: These fees vary for each convention so we will budget \$300 as the average cost of this training. There will be optional additional conventions available for additional training.

Team Attire Fee:

Competitive Company Members: \$275 Momentum Minis: \$180

This will include selected team apparel for the season.

*We purchase new team attire (jackets/warm ups/shirts) every other year but are choosing to keep our current gear for the 2024-2025 Season.

Costume Deposits: Per Dance: \$110

We will try to reuse costumes when possible but will hold the costume deposit until all costumes are ordered. Any funds not used will stay in your competition account until April. We will use costume deposits to defray the cost of any accessories needed and prop builds as well. Any remaining funds will get credited to your dance class tuition account.

Extras:

- Travel expenses, shoes, accessories, tights, and make up will be your responsibility.
- Competition/Convention entry fees are non-refundable.

Monthly Solo/Duet/Trio Rehearsal: All soloists/duet/trios will be required to attend at least one monthly solo rehearsal with their choreographer for 45 minutes. The fee will be \$45/rehearsal. You may request for additional rehearsal hours if you desire. The choreographer may also request more rehearsal time throughout the season if the monthly rehearsal isn't enough. Your monthly maintenance rehearsals will continue through to the second competition.

Competitor's Obligations: All competitors will be required to rehearse during their scheduled time slot as well as practicing throughout the week on their own time. Dancers should have a copy of all competition music. When becoming a member of the Company, it is with the understanding that being a member of the Company comes before ALL other activities in which they may be involved. We suggest that dance be their only activity

as competing can be time-consuming especially as competition dates get closer. Committing to outside activities has a strong effect on the student as well as the other team members, when a student is absent. Remember the Company is judged as a TEAM when competing, and one student with bad attendance hurts the entire TEAM. If any student or parent feels they cannot see this commitment through, we suggest they bow out of the competition team before our choreography Bootcamp.

Fundraising: All team members must be responsible for their own fundraising. Any funds raised for the Company must be given to the Director to apply the appropriate credits to each account. Sponsorship forms will be handed out if your dancer would like to solicit donations from local businesses. These sponsors will be given advertising options on our website and in our end of the year recital programs. The director must first approve all fundraising activities.

Estimated Minimum Company Expense Forecast
Momentum Minis (Ages 5-8) Minimum 1 Routine:

Fee	Cost
Choreography Fee (1-Due July 30th)	\$70
1. Admin/Transport Fee (3)	\$195
2. Team Monthly Fee (Classes/Rehearsal)	\$350
3. Team Attire	\$180
4. Costume Deposit (1)	\$110
5. Competition Entry Fees (2)	\$150
6. Convention Fees (1)	\$200

-Total Competitive Cost (Items 1-6): \$1,185 (7 Installments Sept-March: \$169/mth)

-Estimated Monthly Regular Recital Class Cost: \$190/mth

****Monthly Commitment for all Sept-March: \$359**

****Summer Cost July 8-26th - \$200 (6 Hours a Week)**

Competitive Company (Ages 9-11) Minimum 2 Routine:

Fee	Cost
Choreography Fee (2-Due July 30th)	\$140
1. Admin/Transport Fee (5)	\$325
2. Team Monthly Fee (Classes/Rehearsal)	\$1080
3. Team Attire	\$275
4. Costume Deposit(s) (2)	\$220
5. Competition Entry Fees (8)	\$600
6. Convention Fees (1)	\$300

-Total Cost (Items 1-6): \$ 2,800 (9 Installments Sept-May: \$311/mth)

-Estimated Monthly Regular Recital Class Cost: \$297/mth

****Monthly Commitment for all Sept-May: \$608**

****Summer Cost July 8-26th - \$300 (9 Hours a Week), Ballet Intensive \$140**

Competitive Company (Ages 12 and Up) Minimum 2 Routines:

Fee	Cost
Choreography Fee (Due Aug 1st)	\$140
1. Admin/Transport Fee (6)	\$390
2. Team Monthly Fee (Classes/Rehearsal)	\$1020
3. Team Attire	\$275
4. Costume Deposit(s) (2)	\$220
5. Competition Entry Fees (8)	\$600
6. Convention Fees (2)	\$600

-Total Cost (Items 1-6): \$3,105 (9 Installments Sept-May: \$345/mth)

-Estimated Monthly Regular Recital Class Cost: \$297/mth

*****Monthly Commitment for all Sept-May: \$642***

*****Summer Cost July 8-26th - \$300 (9 Hours a Week), Ballet Intensive \$140***